

**DIVISION OF BUILDING SAFETY
ELECTRICAL BUREAU**

INTRA-DIVISIONAL MEMO

DATE: December 16, 2003

TO: Electrical Bureau Inspectors

FROM: Jeff Fitzloff
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SUBJECT: 2002 NEC Article 210.8 (B) (3) Kitchens

Recently, the Bureau was asked if all 125 volt, single-phase, 15 and 20-ampere receptacles located in kitchens other than dwelling units must be protected by GFCI protection. The code is very clear that these receptacles will be GFCI protected for personnel. The handbook stated that accident data revealed many hazards in **non-dwelling** (commercial) **kitchens**, including poor maintenance of equipment, damaged cords, wet floors, and inadequate employee electrical safety training. In researching the issue, accident reports substantiated several injuries and even some electrocutions from the use of refrigerators and other electrical appliances in this high-hazard area.

210.8(B)(3) Other Than Dwelling Units

Single phase 125-volt 15- and 20-ampere receptacles located within kitchen locations in occupancies other than dwelling units require GFCI protection

